

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CT-1279

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Stebbins Barn (preferred)  
other Bennett Barn

### 2. Location

street and number 2750 Beaver Dam Road x not for publication  
city, town Chesapeake Beach    vicinity  
county Calvert

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Edwin W. Jr., and Linda K. Bennett  
street and number 2750 Beaver Dam Road telephone  
city, town Chesapeake Beach state MD zip code 20732

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber 745 folio 857  
city, town Prince Frederick tax map 12 tax parcel 9 tax ID number 3-002896

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
  x   Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
   Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
   Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
   Recorded by HABS/HAER  
   Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
   Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  x  </u> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<u>  x  </u> building(s)	<u>  x  </u> private	<u>  </u> commerce/trade	<u>  </u> buildings
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> defense	<u>  </u> sites
<u>  </u> site		<u>  </u> domestic	<u>  </u> structures
<u>  </u> object		<u>  </u> education	<u>  </u> objects
		<u>  </u> funerary	<u>  </u> Total
		<u>  </u> government	
		<u>  </u> health care	
		<u>  </u> industry	
		<u>  </u> landscape	
		<u>  </u> recreation/culture	
		<u>  </u> religion	
		<u>  </u> social	
		<u>  </u> transportation	
		<u>  </u> work in progress	
		<u>  </u> unknown	
		<u>  </u> vacant/not in use	
		<u>  x  </u> other: storage	

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory

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## 7. Description

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Stebbins Barn is a wood frame structure, soundly built, five bays wide by three bays deep. The gable roof is covered with corrugated metal. A cupola, gable-roofed with wood louvers on 2 sides, is centered on the ridge of the barn roof. Partially intact half-round gutters are mounted along the fascia boards. Half-round brackets remain mounted along the board where the gutter itself is missing. The barn is sheathed in vertical, wood siding, stained red. There are regular gaps between the siding boards, permitting free circulation of air. On the west side (back) of the barn, the vertical boards are side-hinged at an approximate 4-foot interval. A wide door opening is centered on the principal façade. Sliding doors are suspended from metal track. The gable ends of the building each have very tall single doors. All timbers forming the barn are sawn. Downbraces support the vertical members along the sill. The overhead space in the barn has been fitted with timbers and poles for hanging tobacco.

The Stebbins Barn was built by (or for) Alfred Stebbins in 1907. According to Mr. Stebbins' granddaughter, Florence Krauss, her father used the barn as a garage. The barn is set at the top of a driveway against a wooded area. In the past, fields were across from it. The ground drops away steeply at the rear of the barn. According to neighbor Carroll L. Chambers (grandson of local barn-builder Frank Chambers), the barn has been used for drying tobacco until recently.

At this time (fall 2001), the Bennetts have engaged an Amish builder to restore the barn.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1907

Architect/builder

Construction dates 1907

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Stebbins Barn meets the following criteria for designation as a Calvert County Historic District:

- A. 1.: it has significant character interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the County; and
- A. 3: is identified with a person or group of persons who influenced society.

The Stebbins Barn is unique among Calvert County barns. A cupola is centered on the ridge of the roof. This feature is unusual on tobacco barns in Calvert County, and is not known to occur on any other barns in this part of the county. Cupolas do appear on architect-designed colonial revival barns in the county, such as those at Point Farm (now Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum) which were designed by Gertrude Sawyer and constructed in the early 1930s. The cupola on the Stebbins Barn is much different. It is a four-sided structure with a gable roof, siding on the gable ends, and open wood louvers on the other two sides; barns like this are not uncommon in central New York, for instance. The cupola was probably intended to capture and ventilate rising heat in the barn. The barn roof is entirely open under the cupola to allow air to pass between the barn and the vents. The barn represents a significant departure from barn design in the area, and has become a landmark feature on Beaver Dam Road.

The Stebbins Barn, built in 1907, was associated with the Alfred Stebbins who was a business owner in the resort community of Chesapeake Beach. Mr. Stebbins ran a restaurant in the town, which had been recently incorporated and served vacationers from Washington, D. C. and elsewhere in the region. The Stebbins family, like many other property owners in the beach communities, stayed at their house in Chesapeake Beach during the summer season, moving back to their home for the winter. Mr. Stebbins imported the style exhibited in the barn to Calvert County. It is emblematic of the superimposition of nonlocal styles onto the new community.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 2100 SF  
Acreage of historical setting <1 acre  
Quadrangle name North Beach

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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## 11. Form Prepared by

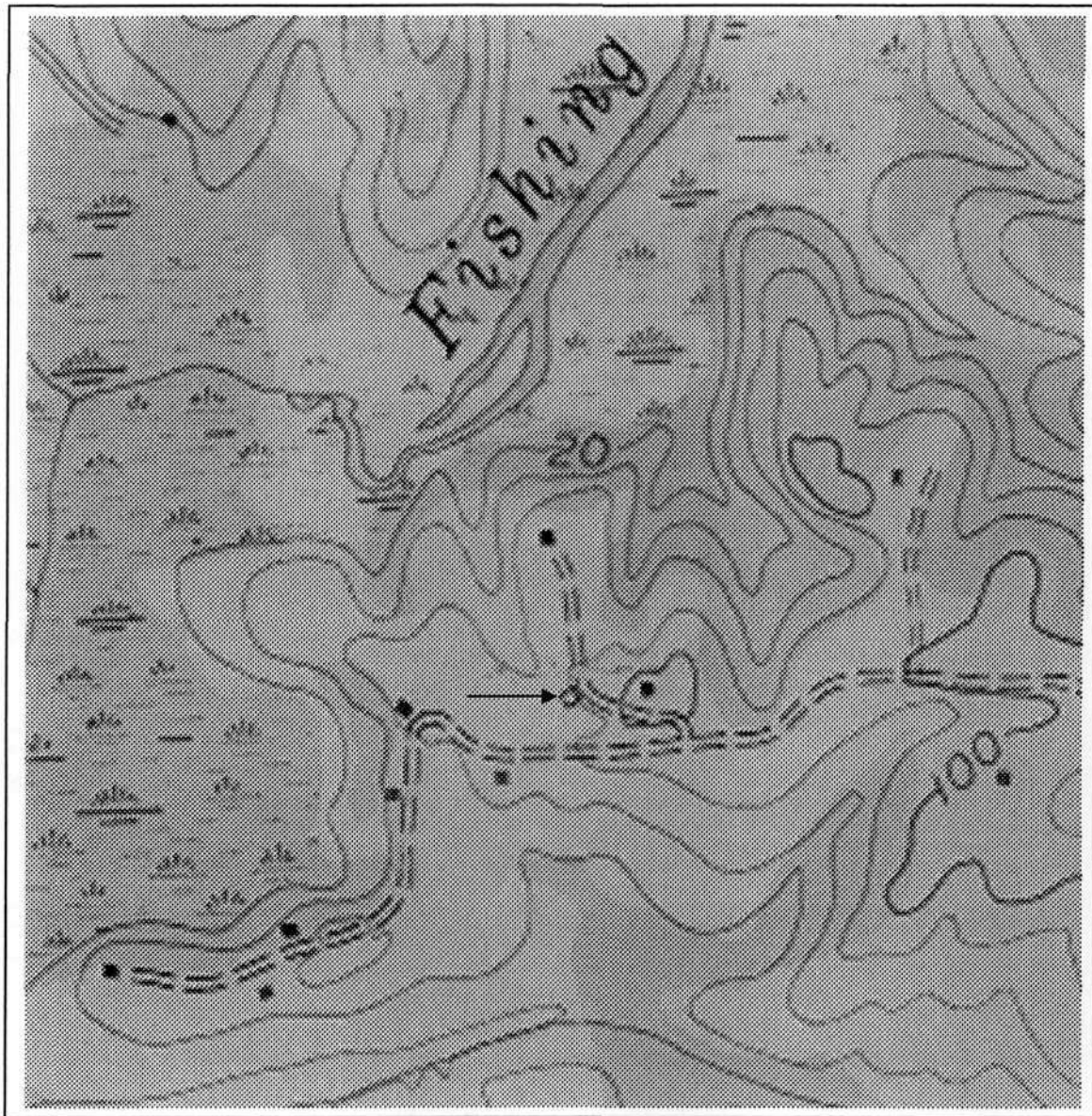
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name/title	Kirsti Uunila, Historic Preservation Specialist		
organization	Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum	date	28 September 2001
street & number	10515 Mackall Road	telephone	(410) 586-8555
city or town	St Leonard	state	MD 20685

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



CT-1279 Stebbins Barn  
NORTH BEACH MD Quadrangle 7.5  
1953, photorevised 1979



